

smooth area broader than high, lateral areas pubescent. Legs slender, femora infuscated, all tarsi longer than tibiae, claws simple. Wings longer than body, with distinct dark veins, radial cell closed, its length divided by width (inside measurements) gives a quotient of 2.4, maximum width of wing divided by width of radial cell gives 7.0, second abscissa of radius one and one-half times first, from bottom of radial cell a spur sticks straight downward two-thirds as long as first abscissa of radius, a perpendicular line erected at middle of longitudinal axis of wing would just touch apex of radial cell, surface pubescent with dark hairs, margin ciliate.

Abdomen nearly as long as thorax, longer than high, with ring of hairs at base. Using width of head as a base the length of mesonotum ratio is 1.0, antennae 2.6, wing 3.4.

♂.—Antenna 14-segmented, less abrupt change in size and color between segments 3-5 (which are not excavated) and the last nine, length 2.6 times width of head.

Length of five males .55-.9 mm., average .7 mm. Length of eight females .7-.9 mm., average .8 mm.

Type: Cat. No. 22589 U. S. Nat. Mus. Type female, allotype and one male and four females paratypes. One pair paratypes with Acad. Natl. Sci. Phila., one pair in Coll. Biol. Survey, and two females (one in balsam) and one male with author.

Type-locality: Twin Falls, Idaho.

Biology: Reared from *Aphis bakeri* Cowan, the clover aphid, June 15 and in July, 1919, by Mr. Ralph H. Smith, who says he has made repeated unsuccessful attempts to rear this Cynipid as a parasite of the aphid but on two occasions reared them in cages along with *Aphelinus lapsiligni* Howard, the most important parasite of this aphid. He is therefore inclined to believe that the *Charips* is not a primary parasite but is a parasite of *Aphelinus lapsiligni* Howard instead.

Labenidae, a New Family in the Ichneumonoidae (Hymen.).

By HENRY L. VIERECK, U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

Labena Cresson, the following new genus and possibly *Apechoneura* Kriechbaumer differ from *Grotea* Cresson and most other, if not all other, Ichneumonidae in having the

abdomen inserted high up on the propodeum, like genera in the Evaniidae, and are for this reason referable to a separate family.

PSILOPARIA new genus.

Presumably related to *Apechoneura* Kriechbaumer, of which it may prove to be a synonym but from which it appears to differ in its armed cheeks. Has also characters in common with *Labena* Cresson, *Grotea* Cresson, and *Megarhyssa* Ashmead.

Type: Psiloparia maculata new species.

Psiloparia maculata new species.

Type: No. 4119, The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Type locality: Quebrada, Hacienda Guachipelin, Guanacaste, Costa Rica, Jan. 15, 1910 (Tristan and Calvert).*

♀.—Length 16 mm.; sheaths of the ovipositor 16 mm.; antennae 13 mm.; body polished, head and thorax mostly yellow with reddish and black marks, abdomen mostly reddish with a blackish tinge. Facial line: transfacial line : : 44 : 55, eyes slightly emarginate on the inner margin opposite the upper edge of the antennal fossa; antennocular line: facial line : : 3 : 44; front mostly reddish, with an impression on each side back of the antennal fossae, the impressions separated from each other by a median longitudinal crista that extends down between the antennal fossae where it is best developed a short distance below the upper edge of the face; front on each side elevated into a welt, along the eye margin, that is higher than the adjoining edge of the eye and provided with a few coarse pits; face yellow except for a submarginal, longitudinal, dark stramineous stripe on each side, covered with large, shallow adjoining or nearly adjoining punctures the diameter of some of which : the antennocular line : : 2 : 3; face elevated above the edge of the adjoining eye margin along which it is transversely striate, and slightly convex, separated from the clypeus and the malar space by a furrow that is deepest between the malar space and the face; width of clypeus : length down the middle : : 15 : 6; basal half of clypeus transversely oblong, transversely striate and separated from the apical half by a transverse carina, the apical half smoother than the basal half but yellow like the basal

[* For notes on this locality see Calvert, A. S. and P. P.: A Year of Costa Rican Natural History (New York, Macmillan, 1917), pp. 433 et seq. The "Quebrada" referred to above is the "ablution brook" mentioned on p. 435.—P. P. CALVERT.]

half except for a median blackish spot; mandibles black and polished, heavier than in *Labena grillator* Say, their teeth poorly developed, rudimentary and rounded, greatest width of under side of mandibles : greatest length of mandibles : : 8 : 14; outer surface of mandibles triangular in outline, the height of the triangle : the length : : 6 : 14; labrum visible between the mandibles and the clypeus, cheeks yellow, rectangular beneath and back of the eye, more highly developed than in *Megarhyssa lunatrix* Fabricius, occipital carina represented only by a band-like carina on the lower third of the cheeks and extending to the gular carina which it meets almost at the insertion of the mandibles; at the lower posterior angle of the cheek half way between these two carinae is a broad, flattened, rounded tooth; palpi similar to the palpi in *Megarhyssa lunatrix* Fabricius; occiput black and reddish; antennae much the same as in *Megarhyssa lunatrix* F., except in the terminal joint which in this species is shaped more like the end joint of the index finger than in *M. lunatrix* F.; antennae mostly dark reddish, the apical fourth mostly yellowish, contrasting with the darker tip and darker basal three-fourths, third, fourth and fifth joints of the flagel blackish above.

Pronotum mostly reddish, its sides partly yellow, partly black, its hind margin straight, a tooth near its lateral margin and half-way between the anterior margin and the tegulae, directed outward and backward; dorsulum reddish except for a yellow anterior margin, a median, longitudinal yellow mark and a posterior black mark, uniformly, coarsely and transversely ribbed, notauli completely wanting, mesopleurae mostly yellow, anterior margin and prepectus black, a reddish and black mark on each posterior, upper fourth, scutel yellow with its posterior margin black, with three transverse carinae, the first and second arcuate, the third straight; metanotum yellow, with a reddish and black posterior margin and with an almost semilunar area bounded by an arcuate ridge anteriorly and a straight ridge posteriorly, tegulae oblong, yellowish and brownish stramineous.

Wings almost colorless except as follows: apical eighth of wings mostly covered with an almost circular dark brownish macula; venation much as in *Megarhyssa lunatrix* F., notably differing in the absence of a ramellus, in the recurrent vein being received by the areolet before but near the middle and in the submedian vein joining the nervulus at the junction of its upper third with its middle third, nervellus not interstitial with the transverse cubitus, veins blackish, except for the costa which is dark stramineous and concolorous with the stigma.

Legs short, mid and hind tarsi hardly longer than their tibiae, fore tarsi nearly twice as long as their tibiae, legs mostly yellowish, tarsi dark with yellowish tips except for the mid and hind onychii which are black or blackish like their claws, hind coxae, trochanters femora and tibiae reddish, hind tarsi with the basal joint mostly blackish.

Metapleurae almost square, yellow, reddish and black along the anterior edge; propodeum with its upper aspect mostly reddish on the basal half

and mostly yellow on the apical half, posterior face yellowish except for a median blackish and reddish area, distance from metanotum to coxal line as viewed from behind: distance between coxal line and abdominal line : : 34 : 16; distance between coxal line and abdominal line : length of hind coxae : : 16 : 50.

Abdomen petiolate, length of first tergite : its width at apex : : 70 : 19; length of first tergite : length of second : : 70 : 45; abdomen beyond fifth tergite almost bulbous, abdomen reddish stramineous throughout, more or less covered with blackish stains, first tergite with a yellow streak down the middle on its basal two-thirds, lateral margins of tergites, like the sternites more or less yellowish, sheaths with their apical fifth pale yellow, rest of sheaths black, ovipositor castaneous.

To Proposers of New Genera.

[The following has been received through Dr. L. O. Howard.]

This ought to be quoted in every entomological journal on earth and special "marked copies" sent to men of Walkerian tendencies.—C. F. BAKER, Los Baños, Philippine Islands.

REMPHAN

"The remarks of M. Guerin Meneville on this genus are so apposite and are so much more applicable at the present time, that we think we are doing some service in calling attention to them here. He says, 'The genus *Remphan* of Mr. Waterhouse, it seems to us, ought to be placed near *Macrotoma*. The author has forgotten to state its affinities, after having given its generic characters, commencing with the head and finishing with the abdomen, just as is the custom with many entomologists, and which is very convenient for celerity. In fact, in thus freeing one's self from the researches which ought to be really made in order to fix the place of a new genus, the task is reduced to almost mechanical work; for it is only to say all or almost all that can be seen of an insect to describe it, and leave to the poor reader the care and perplexity of picking whatever seems good to him.' Mr. Waterhouse is, however, one of the last that we can complain of in this respect; but the systematic determination of some to content themselves with the barest descriptions, without giving the slightest clue to the position of their new genera, ought to disentitle them to the right of priority in the event of any of these genera being afterwards described in a conscientious and recognizable manner. Of course, it is a different matter when it is stated of any new genus that its affinities are doubtful or unknown to its author. As M. Guerin Meneville observes, these mechanical descriptions can be done by any one; the real test of competency will be found in the observation which every conscientious writer will feel it his duty to make in instituting, or proposing to institute, a new genus."—1866, Pascoe, Proc. Zool. Soc., 535.